

# City of Seaford News

Spring 2006



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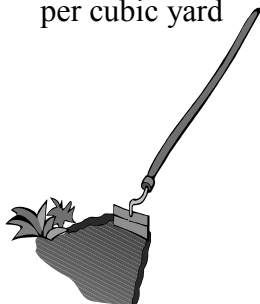
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## Compost For Sale

The City of Seaford has Compost Available \$10 per cubic yard



Call 629-0120 for more information.

## From the Desk of Mayor Butler...

I'll start my first Mayor's letter by saying what a pleasure it is to be able to serve the residents of the City of Seaford as your Mayor. I have been with the City for many years as a Councilman and am pleased to be able to serve the City I love in a greater capacity.

But rather than speak about myself, I would like to pay tribute to Councilman Miller, who I spent many years with as both a colleague on Seaford's City Council, and as a friend. I regret to say that Councilman Larry W. Miller passed away on April 11<sup>th</sup>, just before a Council Meeting. He often arrived early to prepare. It was his way. Let me tell you a little bit about Larry:

Larry served on the Seaford City Council from 1982-1994, and then again from 1998 until his recent passing. Just this March, I appointed him as Vice Mayor. Larry was an asset in many ways, but he was also the most experienced Councilperson, with 20 years of service. He truly loved this City and loved being able to help the citizenry. He was an outstanding man.

During his tenure on Seaford's City Council, Councilman Miller served as liaison for the Electric Department, and during that time, would often be found with the line crews during an emergency wearing his personalized hard hat. Most recently he served as Police Commissioner and you could tell how proud he was of the Police Department at every meeting of Mayor and Council when he beamed as he reported on all of the accomplishments of the department and the officers. He was very proud of all of the City Staff.

## Councilman Larry W. Miller



Professionally, Larry owned and operated Miller's Auto Interiors until his retirement when he landed his dream job as Manager of Fenwick Towers in Fenwick Island, DE. He loved the beach so much that he would call just to let you hear the waves.

Larry's civic duties did not end at the steps of City Hall, he was also past president of the Seaford Volunteer Fire Department.

Most importantly, he was a loving and caring family man and was especially devoted to his wife Lorraine and daughter Crystal.

I'd like to express how thankful that all of the staff and elected officials are to have had the opportunity to work with Larry and to have him as a friend. He was one of a kind and we are very lucky that he shared his life and his dedication to the City of Seaford with us.

I look forward to serving you as Mayor and I thank the residents of Seaford for your ongoing support and assistance.

**City Procurement Bid Packages are Now Available Online at [www.seafordde.com/notices.cfm](http://www.seafordde.com/notices.cfm)**

## The City Welcomes Two New Council Members and A New Mayor

On March 14, Edward H. Butler, Jr. was sworn in as the City of Seaford's new Mayor. Also sworn in was the late Larry Miller for another term as City Councilman. Mike Vincent was sworn in as City Councilman to fill the vacant seat of Councilwoman Grace Peterson upon her retirement. The City would also like to welcome Councilwoman Leanne Phillips-Lowe, who was sworn in on April 25, to fill the un-expired term of Councilman Edward H. Butler, Jr. We welcome the new members to Mayor and Council and hope that you will too.



Mayor Edward H. Butler, Jr.

## The Nanticoke Riverfest is in Sight! "Tugging on the River"

The Nanticoke Riverfest Committee invites you to participate in this year's event, themed "Tugging on the River". **Vendors** are still needed to showcase and sell their wares during the event. This year, non-profit agencies with no sale items are encouraged to set-up at no charge! The committee also needs your help to **volunteer!** Volunteers are especially needed to help clean up. Do you need community service credits for school? This could be for you! If you or if your business would like to help, **Sponsorships** are still available for general or special events. All sponsors will receive recognition at the event. Call 302-629-9173 for more information. We hope to see you there!

## River Princesses Wanted

It will soon be that time again, to crown the next Little Miss and Junior Miss Riverfest for 2006. This year's pageant will be held on July 14 at 6 p.m. in the Mt. Olivet Church parking lot. The Little Miss Category is for girls ages 3-6 and the Junior Miss is for girls ages 7-10. Applications and information can be obtained at City Hall, 414 High Street or by calling 629-9173. Only 25 entries will be accepted.

## Showcase Your Talent

Contestants are needed for the 2006 Froggy 99.9 Riverfest Gong Show. This will be the third year that the Gong show has appeared at the Riverfest and new and fresh talent is needed. Is your talent silly, out-of-the-ordinary or just plain fun? Then the Gong Show is right for you.

All participants must register in advance by downloading an application at [www.froggy999.com](http://www.froggy999.com) or by contacting Brian Cleary at [Brian.Cleary@ClearChannel.com](mailto:Brian.Cleary@ClearChannel.com). Space is limited so talents will be screened and scheduled prior to the July 15th event. For more information call 302-629-9173.

### 2006 WATER METER READING SCHEDULE

January	01/18, 01/19, 01/20	(30 days)
	(***)READ UN-READ METERS ALSO(***)	
February	02/20, 02/21, 02/22	(33 days)
March	03/20, 03/21, 03/22	(28 days)
April	04/19, 04/20, 04/21	(30 days)
May	05/22, 05/23, 05/24	(32 days)
June	06/20, 06/21, 06/22	(29 days)
July	07/19, 07/20, 07/21	(29 days)
August	08/21, 08/22, 08/23	(33 days)
September	09/20, 09/21, 09/22	(30 days)
October	10/18, 10/19, 10/20	(28 days)
November	11/20, 11/21, 11/22	(33 days)
December	12/19, 12/20, 12/21	(29 days)

(# days) Denotes number of days in billing cycle.

### 2006 ELECTRIC METER READING SCHEDULE

January	01/30, 01/31, 02/01	(33 days)
	*** (MANUALLY READ ALL ERTZ METERS) ***	
February	02/27, 02/28, 03/01	(28 days)
March	03/29, 03/30, 03/31	(30 days)
April	05/01, 05/02, 05/03	(33 days)
May	05/31, 06/01, 06/02	(30 days)
June	06/28, 06/29, 06/30	(28 days)
July	07/31, 08/01, 08/02	(33 days)
August	08/30, 08/31, 09/01	(30 days)
September	09/27, 09/28, 09/29	(28 days)
October	10/30, 10/31, 11/01	(33 days)
November	11/29, 11/30, 12/01	(30 days)
December	12/27, 12/28, 12/29	(28 days)

(# days) Denotes number of days in billing cycle.

## Clean Up Week May 8-12

Annually, the City of Seaford schedules a clean-up week in order to improve the appearance of the City. During this week, Public Works will haul away unwanted materials at no charge for CITY RESIDENTS ONLY.

**HEAVY MATERIALS:** Stoves, furniture, cement pipe, etc. will be collected separately as special equipment may be needed.

**WEIGHT LIMITS:** When filled, bags and containers shall not weigh more than 50 lbs.

**CONTAINERS:** Please use disposable containers as they will not be returned.

**PLACEMENT:** All materials to be picked up must be placed on the curb line no later than 8:30 a.m. on the day scheduled for your area's pick up. Our employees are not permitted to go on private property. Once a street has been cleared, the trucks WILL NOT RETURN.

**PRIVATE CONTRACT WORK:** Debris from any work done by a private contractor (cutting trees, construction, etc.) is the responsibility of the contractor. Do not place on curb line for the City to remove.

**DO NOT PLACE LEAVES, LIMBS, TWIGS OR GRASS CLIPPINGS ON THE CURBLINE DURING CLEAN-UP WEEK.**  
NORMAL PICKUP OF THESE ITEMS WILL RESUME THE WEEK AFTER CLEAN-UP WEEK.

**NO HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE, PAINTS OR HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS WILL BE PICKED UP.** CALL DELAWARE SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY FOR PROPER DISPOSAL OF HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE AT 800-904-7080.

**NO FREEZERS, REFRIDGERATORS, AIR CONDITIONERS OR OTHER APPLIANCES WHICH CONTAIN, OR MAY HAVE CONTAINED, FREON WILL BE PICKED UP.**

### **REMEMBER: SPRING CLEAN-UP WEEK IS FOR CITY RESIDENTS ONLY!!**

Call Delaware Solid Waste Authority for proper disposal of household hazardous waste at 800-404-7080.

### THE LEAF AND LIMB FACILITY WILL BE CLOSED DURING CLEAN UP WEEK May 8-12

#### **Pick-Up Schedule:**

Monday, May 8: East of Front Street  
Tuesday, May 9: Front St., to the RR track,  
including Virginia Commons, Wilmar  
Village and Hurley Heights.  
Wednesday, May 10: RR tracks to Nylon  
Boulevard  
Thursday, May 11: Martin Farms, Westview and  
Parsons Village.  
Friday, May 12: Woodside Manor

#### **Utility Disconnect Schedule**

April	Thursday, Apr. 6
May	Monday, May 8
June	Tuesday, June 6
July	Thursday, July 6
August	Tuesday, Aug. 8
September	Wednesday, Sept. 6
October	Friday, Oct. 6
November	Tuesday, Nov. 7
December	Wednesday, Dec. 6

#### **Mark Your Calendars!**

**Towne & Country Fair ~ May 27-28**  
**Chesapeake Brass Band ~ July 8**  
**Riverfest ~ July 14-15**  
**AFRAM ~ August 11-12**

These are the dates that disconnects will take place, not when the bills are due. Please see your bill for it's due date.

# SDPR Programs

## Seaford Community Pool

The Community Pool will open on Memorial Day Weekend and is open every Saturday and Sunday until school closes for the year, then each day from 12-7 p.m.



## Trip to Inner Harbor

The Seaford Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring a trip to the Inner Harbor on Saturday, May 13, 2006. We will leave from the back parking lot of the Seaford Senior High School at 8:30 a.m. and depart from Baltimore at 4 p.m. The cost of the trip is \$18 per person and is first-come, first-serve. There are 46 seats available on the motor coach.

## Orioles vs. Yankees

On Friday, June 2, 2006, the Recreation Department will be hosting a trip to Camden Yards to watch the Orioles beat up the Yankees! There are 46 seats available in Section 86, by the bullpen area. The cost is \$44 per person for the ticket and bus transportation from Seaford. Tickets will be sold on a first-come, first-serve basis. The bus will depart from the Seaford Senior High School back parking lot at 4 p.m. and return immediately following the game.

## USA Tennis Free-For-All

Saturday, June 3, 3-5 p.m. Come enjoy an afternoon of free tennis and fun! There will be a free tennis clinic, free hot dogs, and free soda! While you are there, you can sign up for any tennis program offered by the Seaford Parks and Recreation Department this summer. Tennis rackets will be provided for your use. You DO need to wear sneakers. No registration is necessary.

## Little Smashers Tennis Program

June 12-16, 9-10 a.m. This is a tennis program offered to children ages 4-7 to teach them the fundamentals of the game. The cost is \$25. Pre-registration is required.

## Tennis Clinic

June 19-July 12, 8:30-10 a.m., Mondays and Wednesdays. This is a program for children ages 6-12 to learn the basics, from how to hit the tennis ball, scoring, and playing fun matches. Players will be divided by age and skill level but classes will be run at the same time on different courts. The cost is \$40. Pre-registration is required.

## USA Team Tennis

June 20-July 13, Pre-registration is required.

Ages 6-14, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8:30-10 a.m. Cost is \$50.

Ages 10-18 (Blue Division), Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Cost is \$60. The more advanced players will travel to matches.

Adults 18 and Up. Cost is \$45. Adult lessons available for Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced. Call 302-629-6809 for more information.

## Pepsi Pitch, Hit & Run Competition – Baseball

Saturday, April 29 at 2 p.m. at Olympic Field in the Sports Complex off Market Street Extended. Age groups are 7&8; 9&10, 11&12, 13&14 year olds. This event is free! The rain date is Sunday, April 30 at 2 p.m. Please pre-register by calling 302-629-6809.






*For More Information or to Register for Programs  
Please Contact the Seaford Department of Parks & Recreation  
at 302-629-6809.*

*There is a \$10 per-program non-resident fee for all registrants  
who reside outside of Seaford corporate limits.*

## Lawn Maintenance

Just a reminder! Your grass cannot be any higher than 10". The City has an ordinance in place to help keep the City of Seaford looking its best. So, remember to keep your grass cut. It is also the responsibility of the resident to cut the grass between the curb and sidewalk and the expansion joints in the sidewalk. Please make sure that you do not throw your grass clippings into the street... this could clog the storm water drains, which could mean problems down the road; instead, bag your clippings in 15 gallon or smaller plastic bags and place them at the curb line to be picked up by City crews.

## Be a Responsible Pet Owner

As the weather improves, many pet owners will take this opportunity to walk their dogs. Please remember while doing so that it is your responsibility to clean up after your pet. Be a good neighbor by not letting your dog's business become a nuisance to others. Please clean up any waste that your dog produces.     

### Notice:

**Do you have any untagged or improperly tagged vehicles on your property? They will be towed by a contractor hired by the City after proper notification to the property owner!**

## Senior Citizen Tax Exemption

Are you a senior citizen who owns property in our City? Is this your place of residence? Is your income less than \$10,000 as a married couple and less than \$7,500 as a single person, other than social security? Then you may be eligible for a senior citizen exemption on your property taxes. Please contact the City Office at 629-9173 for additional information.

The seniors who do qualify for this program are required to re-apply each year. Applications were sent out in early February to the seniors currently noted in our records as exempt. If you have not received this application, please call the City Office at 302-629-9173 or pick one up when you pay your utility bill.

Applications are due in no later than April 28, 2006.

## 13th Annual Towne & Country Fair Ross Mansion and Plantation May 27-28

The Greater Seaford Chamber of Commerce has been busy preparing for this years' Towne and Country Fair. There will be musical entertainment provided by the Civil War era band Un-reconstructed, historical dance demonstrations, children's games and activities, many craft vendors and demonstrators, a cake walk and evening barn dance. Volunteers and donations are still needed. For more information or to volunteer call 629-9690 or 628-9828.

## Leaf and Limb Policy

Just a reminder...the following is the policy for the pick-up of limbs and leaves within the City.

1. The leaf machine is operated from Oct. 1 through Dec. 31 annually. During this period, bagging is not required.
2. For the remainder of the year, grass clippings and leaves must be bagged in 15 gallon or smaller bags. Larger bags are prohibited due to excessive weight when the material gets wet or ferments.
3. Branches and limbs must be cut in 6 foot lengths and 4 inch diameter or less. Limbs should be laid parallel to the curb line.
4. No building materials, dirt piles or lawn edgings will be picked up.
5. The City Leaf & Limb Facility opens on the second Monday in March and closes the second Monday in January. Hours are Mon.-Fri. from 1-3 p.m. and Sat. from 12-5 p.m.
6. Pick-ups begin on Monday, except holidays, in the Westview area and continues towards the eastern section of town throughout the week until all material is picked up.
7. Outside contractors may be hired to do these pick-ups for the City.
8. Tags will be attached to materials not acceptable for pick-up explaining the reason. If the items remain in the street, this will be considered a code violation.
9. The service is provided for City residents only.
10. Exceptions to normal pick-ups may be necessary due to priority workloads or emergencies.
11. Failure to comply will result in discontinued service to the property (with proper notice issued by the City.)

Any questions should be directed to Berley Mears, Public Works Superintendent at 629-8307.

## Protecting Your Property From Flood Damage



**Seaford's Flood Hazard:** Seaford is in a fairly good situation in regard to the elevations relative to flooding. On the actual banks of the Nanticoke River, we range from 8 to 30 feet elevation which places very few properties in the flood zone.

**Flood Warning System:** Unique local factors make it especially important that residents and businesses be aware of local flood warnings. During extreme conditions, the bridge at Blades Causeway could cause some inconvenience to persons living south of the Nanticoke River. When flooding threatens, tune to radio station WSUX 98.3 FM and WJDY 1280 AM and to TV stations WBOC 16 and WMDT 47. Also, the NOAA weather radios are a good source of flood hazard information. Most importantly, listen for and act on official warnings issued by the City.

**Flood Safety:** There are several steps you can take in order to increase your personal safety and protect your property if Seaford is hit by a severe flood. Shut off your electricity and gas prior to evacuation. This greatly reduces the chance of fire. The Delaware Dept. of Transportation warns that driving in water which is six inches or deeper is hazardous. When water obscures the road surface, flood induced cracks, holes and undermining are deadly.

**Flood Insurance:** The City of Seaford participates in the National Flood Insurance Program. In exchange for the flood hazard reduction codes enforced by the City, affordable flood insurance is available to all residents. **Homeowner's insurance does NOT cover flood damage.** Flood insurance may be purchased from a number of local agents and structure and/or content coverage may be tailored to your needs. If you are in a flood zone and do not have flood insurance, FEMA will not pay for any damages in the event of a catastrophe.

**Property Protection:** Store loose ground level objects on elevated decks or porches. Consider replacing damaged steps, boardwalks or sheds with types that can be adequately anchored or elevated for safety. Your automobile is at great risk if you leave it in the city during a flood. Examine your home or business frequently for signs of stresses which may indicate an increased vulnerability. Are foundations rotting or cracking? Are pile-to-joist connections pulling apart? Does your home have hurricane clips that are in good shape? By finding signs of weakness before the storm hits, you may be able to avoid major problems. If you are experiencing flood damage to your property, the City Building Official can suggest ways to prevent it.

**Permit Procedure:** Please remember that all development in Seaford requires a building permit which is available at the City Office. By doing this, you ensure that the proposed work will conform to the local building code and be properly designed to resist flood damage. *For additional information on Seaford's flood hazard, see more information filed at the Seaford District Library or stop by City Hall.*

**Flood Hazard Zones:** The City of Seaford provides many services which can help you design a flood resistant structure or reduce the threat to an existing one. A key to this is knowing what the base flood elevation is on your site. Seaford's building official has an up to date floodplain map and can make this determination for you, and can also advise you on how to minimize flood risk.

## Protecting Your Property From Flood Damage Continued

**Drainage Maintenance:** A city as low and as flat as Seaford is going to have drainage problems by its very nature. Please be aware that additional construction will lead to excessive ponding of water. It is illegal to dispose of yard waste on curbs or roadways. The streets can become dangerous when standing water causes loss of traction to drivers. You can assist in resolving this potential problem by locating catch basins on or around your property. Check them periodically. Assist in keeping debris off of them and report any problems that you observe.

**Making Improvements to Your Property:** One of the primary objectives of floodplain building codes is to reduce flood damage. For this reason, older flood prone buildings must be brought up to current flood protection standards if and when a substantial improvement is undertaken.

**Please contact Mike Mulvaney, the City Building Official at 629-9173 with any questions.**

For more information regarding floods, visit the Federal Emergency Management Agency website [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov).

## Motorcycle Safety

A note from Captain Gary Flood, Public Information Officer for the Seaford Police Department: The Seaford Police Department would like to remind our residents that with warm weather quickly approaching that they will see more motorcycles traveling our roadways. Please take a little extra time to look while driving and crossing our roadways. Remember we all have to share the road.

We would also like to remind our motorcycle riders that in addition to being Motorcycle Endorsed on your drivers license, Delaware Law Title 21 Section 4185 states that every person operating or riding on a motorcycle shall have in that person's possession a safety helmet approved by the Secretary of Public Safety and shall wear eye protection approved by the Secretary; provided, however, that every person up to 19 years of age operating or riding on a motorcycle shall wear a safety helmet and eye protection approved by the Secretary. Should you have any more questions please feel free to contact the Department of Motor Vehicles or the Seaford Police Department at 302-629-6644. Have a safe and happy summer.



*From Left: Wastewater Operators Brain Murphy, Marty Sewell, Superintendent Jeff Deats, Bill Wennberg and Bryant Tiffi*

## Waste Water Superintendent Jeff Deats is Selected as Operator of the Year!

Jeff Deats, Superintendent of the City's Waste Water Treatment Facility has been awarded "Waste Water Operator of the Year" for the state of Delaware. The award highlights the role of the operator in protecting the environment. Superintendent Deats was nominated by City Manager Dolores Slatcher and Director of Operations Charles Anderson for the superb job he has done to keep Seaford's facility in outstanding working order. The facility was awarded the EPA's Operations and Maintenance Excellence Award in 2005 under the supervision of Deats.

## The City Welcomes It's Newest Members

The City of Seaford has recently added new members to our team!! The new hires are Tammi Thompson as the Superintendent of Recreation, Valerie McPherson, Jason Cole Scott and Todd White as Police Department Patrolmen and Anita Bell and Tracy Torbert as Dispatchers. We congratulate and welcome our new members and hope that you will too!!

**A Quarterly Publication  
by the City of Seaford**

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## Simple Ways to Save Money on Your Electric Bill this Summer

- **Eliminate Wasted Energy**  
Turn off appliances, lights and equipment when not in use, including computers and printers.
- **Turn Up Your Thermostat in Warm Months**  
You can save up to 3% for each degree the thermostat is set above 72 degrees. Use ceiling fans to circulate air to make it feel cooler.
- **Do Laundry Wisely**  
Use warm or cold water settings for washing and cold water rinse. Line dry clothes when possible and when using the dryer, always run full loads and clean the lint trap after each use.
- **Dish Washer Savings**  
Only run the dish washer when you have a full load. Use the air dry setting rather than heated drying.
- **Use Energy Efficient Lighting**  
Use compact fluorescent light bulbs. (The ones that look like swirled glass) They use 75% less electricity than regular bulbs and last up to seven years.
- **Replace Air Conditioner Filters**  
Replacing filters monthly can save up to 2% of your energy usage.
- **Wrap Your Water Heater**  
If your water heater is older than 10 years, wrap it with an insulating blanket.
- **Plug Your Home's Leaks**  
Weather-strip, seal and caulk leaky doors and windows, and install foam gaskets behind outlet covers.
- **Install an Energy Star Thermostat**  
This can save up to 3% of your electricity use.
- **Seal your Ducts**  
Leaking ductwork accounts for as much as 25% of cooling costs in an average home.
- **Turn off Exhaust Fans**  
Turn off your kitchen, bath and other exhaust fans 20 minutes after cooking or bathing.
- **Close Your Curtains**  
Keep window coverings closed during the day to prevent the sunlight from heating your home.
- **Place Your Air Conditioner in the Shade**  
Place your window unit air conditioner on the north side of your house. An air conditioner operating in the shade uses 10% less energy when cooling your home. Try planting shrubs to give shade for the unit while not blocking air flow.

